IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (original) A method of enriching a population of cells in those cells which produce an antibody that recognises an antigen of interest, comprising:

a) bringing said population into contact with an antibody that recognises a marker which is essentially unique to those cells present in the population which are capable of producing an antibody, said antibody being attached to a first fluorescent label;

b) bringing said population into contact with the antigen of interest;

c) bringing said population into contact with a sample comprising an antibody that recognises said antigen, said antibody being attached to a second fluorescent label; and

d) separating from the population those cells which are detectable by virtue of being associated with the first and second fluorescent labels.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein parts a), b), and c) are performed simultaneously and the performance optionally comprises at least one wash step.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein parts a) and b), or a) and c), or b) and c), are performed simultaneously and optionally comprise at least one wash step.

4. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 3~~, wherein parts a), b) and c) are performed consecutively in any order, and wherein each performance optionally comprises at least one wash step.

5. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein part a) additionally comprises bringing said population into contact with an antibody that recognises a

second marker essentially unique to those cells present in the population which are capable of producing an antibody, said antibody being labelled with a third label.

6. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 5~~, wherein the separation of the cells producing an antibody that recognises the antigen of interest is performed using fluorescence activated cell sorting.

7. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1 additionally comprising:

a) culturing a plurality of those cells associated with the antigen-antibody-particle complex;
b) screening the cultured cells to identify those cells capable of producing an antibody which recognises an antigen of interest; and
c) isolating said antibody directly or indirectly from the cells.

8. (currently amended) An antibody prepared directly or indirectly according to the method of ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 ~~to 7~~.

9. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody according to claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. cancelled

11. cancelled

12. (new) The method of claim 2, wherein the separation of the cells producing an antibody that recognises the antigen of interest is performed using fluorescence activated cell sorting.

13. (new) The method of claim 4, wherein the separation of the cells producing an antibody that recognises the antigen of interest is performed using fluorescence activated cell sorting.

14. (new) The method of claim 5, wherein the separation of the cells producing an antibody that recognises the antigen of interest is performed using fluorescence activated cell sorting.

15. (new) A method according to claim 2 additionally comprising:

a) culturing a plurality of those cells associated with the antigen-antibody-particle complex;
b) screening the cultured cells to identify those cells capable of producing an antibody which recognises an antigen of interest; and
c) isolating said antibody directly or indirectly from the cells.

16. (new) A method according to claim 4 additionally comprising:

a) culturing a plurality of those cells associated with the antigen-antibody-particle complex;
b) screening the cultured cells to identify those cells capable of producing an antibody which recognises an antigen of interest; and
c) isolating said antibody directly or indirectly from the cells.

17. (new) A method according to claim 5 additionally comprising:

a) culturing a plurality of those cells associated with the antigen-antibody-particle complex;
b) screening the cultured cells to identify those cells capable of producing an antibody

which recognises an antigen of interest; and

c) isolating said antibody directly or indirectly from the cells.

18. (new) A method according to claim 6 additionally comprising:

a) culturing a plurality of those cells associated with the antigen-antibody-particle complex;

b) screening the cultured cells to identify those cells capable of producing an antibody which recognises an antigen of interest; and

c) isolating said antibody directly or indirectly from the cells.

19. (new) An antibody prepared directly or indirectly according to the method of claim 5.

20. (new) An antibody prepared directly or indirectly according to the method of claim 7.